

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

19 February 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director
FROM: Assistant to the Director
SUBJECT: OSS Records

This memorandum recommends action in paragraph 5.

1. The OSS records held by CIA could become a source of embarrassment to CIA.

2. One way of avoiding such embarrassment would be to transfer these records, except any part of them that could not under any circumstances be made public, to the National Archives where they would be available to the public without reference to CIA.

3. CIA does not possess all OSS records. By the President's Executive Order of 20 September 1945, the State Department received most data pertaining to the RA and Presentation Branches of OSS; while CIA received most remaining OSS files via the Strategic Services Unit of the War Department, and CIG. Over the past several years, both State and CIA have retired a considerable portion of OSS records to the National Archives. Between them, State, CIA, and Archives probably hold ninety per cent of the original "corpus" of OSS records. Rest of the other ten per cent could probably be accounted for, but some field records of OSS still come in from time to time to "SSU" (now represented by an office in DDP).

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4. Much of the substance of the OSS records is known to individuals who appear to be at liberty to make use of them in fiction or otherwise, without reference to CIA. Rather than being made the goat of revelations for which CIA is not responsible, it might be better to divest ourselves of all appearance of responsibility in advance.

5. Recommend transfer of OSS records, except those that may not under any circumstances be made public, to the National Archives.

STANLEY J. GROGAN

COMMENTS:

Date:

Signature:

Title: Deputy Director (Plans)

Date:

Signature:

Title: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

Date:

Signature:

Title: Inspector General

Date:

Signature:

Title: General Counsel

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